

Minutes of the Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington St., Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Chairman William Caisley Members Randall Martin, Josh Barnett, Logan Smith, Elizabeth Johnston, Shayna Watchinski and Gerald Thompson

Members Absent: None

Other Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: Ms. Camille Rodriguez, County Administrator, Mr. Eric Schmitt, Assistant County Administrator, Ms. Jessica Woods First Assistant State's Attorney Civil Division, Ms. Julie Morlock, Recording Secretary

Department Heads Present: Mr. Jerry Stokes, County Engineer,

Others Present: Mr. Luke Hohulin, Assistant County Engineer

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Caisley at 8:00 a.m. and a quorum declared.

Chairman Caisley presented the June 4, 2019 meeting minutes for review and approval.

Motion by Johnston/Smith to approve the June 4, 2019 regular meeting minutes.
Motion Carried.

Chairman Caisley presented the bills for review and approval in the amount of \$1,891,326.86. Mr. Caisley asked what we publish in the Pantagraph. Mr. Stokes indicated they publish the lettings. Mr. Caisley also asked about software invoice. Mr. Stokes indicated this is for a yearly subscription for a back-up component for the server and includes anti-virus.

MCLEAN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

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AS OF 6/27/2019

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

Transportation Committee

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0006	SHOW BUS		\$340,358.46	\$340,358.46
0120	HIGHWAY		\$241,494.31	\$241,494.31
0121	BRIDGE MATCHING FUND		\$37,264.89	\$37,264.89
0122	MCLEAN COUNTY MATCHING		\$258,260.52	\$258,260.52
0123	MOTOR FUEL TAX		\$195,616.64	\$195,616.64
0501	TOWNSHIP MOTOR FUEL TAX		\$698,264.62	\$698,264.62
0502	TOWNSHIP BRIDGE PROGRAM		\$120,067.44	\$120,067.44
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			\$1,891,326.86	\$1,891,326.86


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Motion by Martin/Johnston to recommend payment of bills as submitted by the County Auditor in the amount of \$1,891,326.86.

Motion carried.

Chairman Caisley confirmed no appearances by members of the public or employees.

Chairman Caisley presented for action of FY 2020 Downstate Operating Assistance Program Resolution.

Motion by Johnston/Watchinski to recommend approval of FY 2020 Downstate Operating Assistance Program Resolution.

Motion Carried.

Chairman Caisley presented for action a request to approve a Resolution for June 25, 2019 Project Letting. Mr. Stokes went over work that would be done including resurfacing, patch work and work at the Highway Department pumps.

Motion by Martin/Thompson to recommend approval of a Resolution for June 25, 2019 Project Letting.

Motion carried.

Chairman Caisley presented for action a Petition for Joint Culvert Replacement #1 in Yates Road District. Mr. Stokes summarized project and confirmed it would be for two culverts.

Motion by Smith/Barnett to recommend approval of a Petition for Joint Culvert Replacement #1 in Yates Road District

Motion carried.

Chairman Caisley presented for action a Motor Fuel Tax Resolution, Towanda East Road (CH 14), Section 15-00027-06-RS. Mr. Stokes indicated this was a federal project where there are usually more upfront engineering requirements so this would start the process for a 2020 project.

Motion by Barnett/Johnston to recommend approval of a Motor Fuel Tax Resolution, Towanda East Road (CH 14), Section 15-00027-06-RS.

Motion carried.

Chairman Caisley asked Mr. Stokes about the two new hires at the Highway Department. Mr. Stokes indicated they hired a truck driver after a retirement at the end of April and they hired a fleet manager to fill a position that has been vacant since February.

Mr. Stokes provided updates on Covell Road and Stringtown Road projects. He indicated both are almost completed. He also provided photos and updates on bridge projects in the County. Mr. Stokes also let them know they would start work on the Money Creek Bridge at Lake Bloomington and several other bridge projects in the next few weeks.

Mr. Stokes provided a brief overview of the current motor fuel tax and the new motor fuel tax. He said the State will not change current allotments for the current 19 cents but the new 19 cents will have different allotments. He went over the allotments, after administrative fees are taken off, that would go to State, Counties and Townships. Mr. Martin asked about getting an updated flow chart. Mr. Stokes indicated that flow chart would stay same for first 19 cents and but he could provide a flow chart for new amount. Ms. Johnston asked if they could get information to provide to the public to show the benefits of new tax. Mr. Smith agreed with Ms. Johnston and asked if the information could be put in a form such as how many potholes would be filled, etc. Mr. Stokes indicated they are working on the budget now and will be able to add projects they had postponed before. Ms. Johnston said a document to show what our budget was going to pay for before and what our budget will be able to pay for now would be very helpful. Mr. McIntyre asked if this would affect materials, they would be able to use such as asphalt versus oil and chip. Mr. Stokes indicated they would be able to do more asphalt work and while they would still do some pavement preservation projects, they would be able to expand the number of projects.

Mr. McIntyre asked him to confirm change in diesel prices and if we have diesel vehicles. Mr. Stokes confirmed it was a 5-cent increase and they do have a few diesel vehicles. Mr. McIntyre asked if they could re-use concrete. Mr. Stokes indicated Illinois Department of Transportation does not allow that. Mr. McIntyre asked if the Committee was aware of the interstate bridge responsibility and if those expenses were going to need to be considered in the near future. Mr. Stokes explained to the Committee that some of the approach ramps and bridges to Interstate 55 are the County's responsibility to maintain. He said that the ones at Lexington, Towanda and Shirley fall under our purview, but did not feel there would be a full reconstruction on any of those for several years. Mr. McIntyre asked if windfarm would make a difference on upgrades needed on roads. Mr. Stokes indicated it would and was part of their budget for next year. Mr. Barnett asked these are our responsibility because those are county highways over the interstate. Mr. Stokes confirmed. Mr. McIntyre asked Mr. Stokes to confirm that does not happen with other interstates. Mr. Stokes confirmed that is not the case with other interstates. Mr. McIntyre asked about costs for those projects in the past. Mr. Stokes indicated they were approximately 2 million. Ms. Camille asked if they would need to increase staffing because of increased projects. Mr. Stokes confirmed they would need additional staff to monitor and handle projects. Mr. Thompson asked if they had done any publicity or gotten word out to road commissioners about increase in tax and how it will benefit the County. Mr. Stokes stated he had a meeting with the County Township supervisors and WGLT interviewed him after the last Board meeting. Mr. Thompson asked if we could reach out to newspaper or radio about interviews to provide information to the public.

Mr. Thompson asked if the oil and chip procedure they recently did on road at Arrowsmith was normal procedure. Mr. Stokes indicated that is a pavement preservation method. Mr. Stokes provided history on that procedure and current procedure to help keep water from damaging the road.

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Mr. Caisley indicated he attended meeting on the bridgework that would begin near Lake Bloomington and felt it went well. Mr. Stokes agreed that information was well received and they were able to answer questions regarding closure and timeline for the work. Mr. Caisley asked about signage to the campsites asked about at the meeting. Mr. Stokes indicated they provided map to camps and have put signs out in the area to direct individuals.

Mr. Caisley asked for update field trip next month. Mr. Stokes indicated they would tour project and felt they would be back by 11:30/12:00. Mr. Barnett confirmed tour would be after the regular transportation meeting.

Mr. McIntyre asked Mr. Stokes to confirm road responsibilities. Mr. Stokes indicated that it could get confusing because some of the roads that go through towns are County roads and we are responsible for those and then there are roads that are State roads and the State is responsible for those. He said they get calls a lot to determine if County road or not especially ones that are Township roads.

Chairman Caisley asked if there was anything else to come before the Committee; hearing nothing, he adjourned the meeting at 8:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Morlock

Julie A. Morlock
Recording Secretary